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ABSTRACT

This book provides guidance to facilitate the inclusion of students with disabilities in general education classrooms, examining the concept of disability and attitudes toward disability. The book explains that the evil prosthesis of Captain Hook, the comical speech of Porky Pig, and the bumbling antics of Mr. Magoo are all examples of images in U.S. culture that can become the basis for negative attitudes and subliminal prejudice toward people with disabilities. These attitudes influence and underlie discriminatory acts, resulting in negative treatment and segregation. A teacher's ability to recognize and counter such images may well determine the success of inclusion and mainstreaming programs in school and society. Six chapters focus on: (1) "Why Change Attitudes?"; (2) "Issues of Language and Terminology"; (3) "The Minority Group and Medical Model Paradigms"; (4) "Early Attitudes and Their Legacies"; (5) "Disabilities and Common Sense Approaches"; and (6) "Critical Educational Practices for Changing Negative Attitudes." A list of relevant resources are appended. (Contains approximately 900 references.) (SM)

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